

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 127246
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:MSTERNER:TH
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA:HHSAUNDERS
NSC:WQUANDT
S/S-O:SRPVALERGA

-----023198 182317Z /61

O 182216Z MAY 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0000

S E C R E T STATE 127246

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, IS, US, EG

SUBJECT: FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR MEETING WITH DAYAN
MAY 19

1. WE WOULD AGREE WITH REFTEL THAT WHAT WE KNOW OF BEGIN'S
POLICY CANNOT MAKE US OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF
RECEIVING POSITIVE RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS WE POSED TO
DAYAN. THERE ARE NEVERTHELESS COGENT REASONS FOR PRO-
CEEDING AS OUTLINED IN STATE 117795 (SUPPLEMENTED BY
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AUTHORIZED IN THIS MESSAGE) AND IT
MAY PERHAPS BE HELPFUL IF WE GO THROUGH OUR THINKING ABOUT
THIS AT SOME LENGTH.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 127246

2. AS YOU WILL RECALL WHEN WE ORIGINALLY PUT OUR TWO
QUESTIONS TO DAYAN HE UNDERTOOK TO GET US ANSWERS, AND
SUBSEQUENTLY BEGIN CONFIRMED THAT THE GOI WOULD DO THIS.
NEITHER DAYAN NOR BEGIN ATTACHED ANY CONDITIONS TO THIS
UNDERTAKING AT THE TIME. SUBSEQUENTLY DAYAN ASKED US TO
TRY TO GET SOME ASSURANCES FROM SADAT TO STRENGTHEN HIS
HAND IN ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE THE CABINET TO RESPOND

POSITIVELY TO OUR QUESTIONS.

3. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT DAYAN'S PERSONAL SINCERITY WHEN HE SAYS HE WANTS TO WORK FOR POSITIVE RESPONSES AND

THAT THESE PRIOR ASSURANCES FROM SADAT WOULD STRENGTHEN HIS HAND. FROM SADAT'S PERSPECTIVE, HOWEVER, THIS LOOKS LIKE MERELY ANOTHER EFFORT BY THE ISRAELIS TO EVADE DECISIONS AND PUT THE BALL BACK IN EGYPT'S COURT. THIS IS A TACTIC THAT BOTH SIDES RESORT TO ALL THE TIME AND IT IS OBVIOUSLY PART OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. BUT IT IS ALSO INCUMBENT UPON THE U.S., TO THE EXTENT WE HAVE A STAKE IN MOVING MATTERS FORWARD, TO SEE THAT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS INVOLVES SOMETHING MORE AS WELL.

4. IN THIS RESPECT THE U.S. ROLE IS NOT LIMITED TO BEING A MESSAGE-CARRIER BUT INEVITABLY INVOLVES BEING SOMETHING OF AN UMPIRE AS WELL. WE ASKED THE EGYPTIANS TO PRODUCE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL TO THE BEGIN PLAN AND WHEN THEY DID WE IN EFFECT SAID, "IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH, PLEASE GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD." WE MUST NOW DO THE SAME KIND OF THING WITH DAYAN'S PROPOSAL. WE ARE SAYING YOUR QUESTIONS ARE PERFECTLY LEGITIMATE ONES BUT FOR SADAT TO GIVE EXPLICIT COMMITMENTS ON THEM WOULD CONSTITUTE FAR-REACHING CONCESSIONS FOR HIM AND IT IS JUST NOT REASONABLE TO EXPECT SADAT TO GIVE THEM WITHOUT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 127246

A FIRM INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS BY ISRAEL TO REACH DECISIONS OF EQUAL IMPORT. WE ARE IN ANY CASE GIVING DAYAN A GOOD READING ON SADAT'S THINKING ON THE POINTS DAYAN RAISES WHICH, SHORT OF FIRM COMMITMENTS, PROVIDES THE ISRAELIS WITH CLEAR INDICATION OF THE EXTENT OF HIS FLEXIBILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE.

5. WITH APPROACH YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE WE ARE THUS TRYING TO MEET DAYAN'S REQUEST PART-WAY, AND IF THERE IS ANY SERIOUS PROSPECT OF THE CABINET'S WILLINGNESS TO FACE UP TO THE DECISIONS WE WANT, THEY SHOULD FIND IT REASONABLE ENOUGH. IF THEY REALLY WANT NEGOTIATIONS TO PROGRESS THE ISRAELIS CANNOT INDEFINITELY PUT OFF DECISIONS ON THEIR SIDE ON GROUNDS THEY HAVE NOT YET HAD ALL THE ANSWERS FROM THE OTHER SIDE. WE WOULD UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, IF DAYAN FELT THAT THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF THE SENATE'S VOTE ON THE AIRCRAFT SALES DID NOT PROVIDE THE BEST ATMOSPHERE FOR CABINET DISCUSSION OF OUR QUESTIONS, AND IF HE THEREFORE WISHED TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF THEM FOR A SHORT TIME. FYI. OUR OWN JUDGMENT IS THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF THIS SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT MAY 21 CABINET MEETING. END F .

6. IN CONVEYING THE MESSAGE AUTHORIZED STATE 117795 WE WOULD ALSO LIKE YOU TO MAKE CLEAR TO DAYAN THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH SADAT INDICATE THAT WHILE HE WANTS TO MAKE HIS REPLIES CONDITIONAL ON AN INDICATION OF ISRAEL'S WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO OUR QUESTIONS, HE

HAS GIVEN EVERY INDICATION THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE DAYAN ATTACHES TO EACH OF HIS QUESTIONS AND HE IS WILLING TO ADDRESS THEM SERIOUSLY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY. HE HAS ALSO TOLD US THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH DAYAN, EITHER IN EGYPT OR A THIRD COUNTRY, BUT STRESSES THAT SUCH A MEETING MUST BE WELL PREPARED. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT HE IS RECEPTIVE TO DAYAN'S CONCEPT OF MOVING FROM
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 127246

THE SPECIFIC TO THE GENERAL, BUT STILL FEELS SOME FRAME-
WORK OF BASIC PRINCIPLES IS NEEDED. HE SEES NO POINT IN A DAYAN MEETING UNLESS ADEQUATE PRELIMINARY UNDERSTAND-
INGS CAN BE REACHED THAT WOULD HOLD PROMISE THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD BE PRODUCTIVE. WE HAVE THE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT POSITIVE ISRAELI RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE
POSED, TOGETHER WITH SADAT'S ANSWERS TO DAYAN'S QUESTIONS, WOULD CONSTITUTE THE BASIS SADAT IS LOOKING FOR TO ENABLE HIM TO MEET WITH DAYAN.

7. PLEASE ALSO USE THE OCCASION OF YOUR MEETING WITH DAYAN TO SAY THAT EGYPTIANS HAVE APPARENTLY DECIDED TO GIVE SOME FURTHER THOUGHT TO COUNTER-PROPOSAL ON WEST BANK/GAZA, BUT WE HAVE IMPRESSION THEY ARE DEFINITELY INTENDING TO HAVE A PROPOSAL FOR US IN DUE COURSE.

8. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU REPORTS FROM CAIRO ON EILTS' MEETING WITH SADAT MAY 17 AND SOME NEW DOCUMENTS EGYPTIANS HAVE SUBMITTED TO US. WE WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO DO A GOOD DEAL OF THINKING ABOUT SADAT'S NEW IDEAS BEFORE DECIDING HOW TO PROCEED. ACCORDINGLY WE WILL WISH TO HOLD CONTENTS OF THESE MESSAGES CLOSELY TO OURSELVES FOR TIME BEING. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, PEACE PLANS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE127246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MSTERNER:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840128-2291
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780543/aaaabkdv.tel
Line Count: 159
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b81169b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2646484
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR MEETING WITH DAYAN MAY 19
TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, PDIP, IS, EG, US, XF, (DAYAN, MOSHE)
To: TEL AVIV CAIRO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b81169b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014